FY19 FSS Renewal NOFA FAQ

***This FAQ does not replace or supersede the FY19 FSS Renewal NOFA itself. The NOFA remains the controlling document.***

Q. Will there be a webcast for this NOFA?
A. No.

Q. Will the Composite Score be used in this NOFA?
A. No.

Q. Are new PHA applications allowed in this NOFA?
A. No. There was a separate NOFA for applicants that had not been funded in the last 3 years. Only renewals are eligible for this NOFA funding.

Q. Do I have to submit salary comparables this year?
A. Yes, all applicants must submit 3 salary comps for non-supervisory and/or supervisory positions (depending on which are being requested.)

Q. How much can I ask for this year?
A. You can ask for up to the full amount that your salary comps support. There is no longer a cap on requests.

Q. There probably won’t be enough to fund everyone all the way up to their salary comp-supported request… Explain again how funding will be determined?
A. Round 1 – all qualified renewals get the same amount they had last year. Round 2 – any PHA that is eligible to move from a part-time position (.5, 1.5, 2.5 etc.) to the next full-time position will have that .5 position added to their Round 1 award. Round 3 – Any PHA whose salary comps support more than they got in round 1 will have the incremental difference added to their award. If there’s not enough funding for all PHAs to be awarded the full amount of their increase, the increases will be pro-rated across all eligible applicants.

Q. I’m confused about the Target Period for this NOFA
A. For the purposes of this NOFA, we are using the higher of the “get ready” participant report, which reviewed 1/1/18-12/31/18 (12 months) or, a 19-month period between 1/1/18 and 7/30/19 (the closest we could get to the Congressionally mandated 30 days before the publication of the NOFA). So that means that PHAs “get credit” for every participant with an entrance, progress and/or exit report for a 19-month period instead of a 12-month period this year.

Q. Who can submit documentation correcting the PIC report or showing other FSS participants that were served?
A. ONLY: If any of the following situations apply, you must include documentation with your application to confirm the correct number of FSS program participants during the target period.
• an MTW PHA; or
• a PHA that serves RAD-PBRA families in your FSS program,

and: (1) believes that these families are not reflected in the PIC report, and (2) is requesting more renewal positions than what the PIC data support (as shown in the PIC report under the "number of FSS coordinators supported by PIC data" column). You must include documentation ONLY if both of these elements, (1) and (2), apply to you.

Q. If my PHA underwent a RAD conversion during the target period and I served RAD-affected PBRA FSS participants, can I “get credit” for them?
A. Yes. Please see the NOFA for instructions on submitting a report with your application.

Q. If I served non-RAD-affected PBRA FSS participants during the target period, can I get credit for them?
A. No. Non-RAD-affected PBRA FSS participants were not eligible to be served with funds awarded through the FY18 NOFA.

Q. Can I add joint applicants?
A. Yes. If you were funded for joint applicants last year, those joint applicants’ participants will count toward your total participants. If you didn’t have them last year, you can add them and their participants will count in the future. (see Appendix C to determine if you had them last year.)

Q. Are tribes/TDHEs eligible in this NOFA?
A. No. During the NOFA competition period last year, a determination was made by our Office of General Counsel that due to NAHASDA, tribes/TDHEs are not eligible for funding under this NOFA. There was a Technical Correction issued last year. That has not changed.

Q. This doesn’t affect the NOFA competition, but what’s happening with the 120-day rule?
A. When the funds from this NOFA start being used (1/1/20), the 120-day requirement will be stricken from the Contract of Participation Instructions. PHAs will have the option to do a new re-certification at the time of FSS enrollment or use the last re-certification (Annual or Interim) on file.

Q. Will the new statute and rules affect this NOFA?
A. The changes to the FSS program are not in effect until HUD issues implementing regulations. As such, the Act will not impact funding awarded under this NOFA. On May 24 2018, The Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act became Public Law No: 115-174. Section 306 of the Act amended the United States Housing Act of 1937 to revise the FSS program. The Act specifically changes program requirements related to program eligibility, escrow deposits, and supportive services; allows the Secretary to establish a funding formula; and extends eligibility for grant awards to private owners of project-based rental assistance (PBRA) properties.

Q. The link for "From the Ground Up: Creating Partnerships between Public Housing Authorities and Workforce Investment Boards" isn’t correct.
A. The correct link is https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/14_DOL_PUBLICATION.PDF

Further Questions? Please send an email to FSS@hud.gov